

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(National Phase of International Application No.: PCT/JP2003/12366)

Applicant(s): Masayuki NAKAO  
Int'l. Appl. No: PCT/JP2003/12366  
Int'l. Filing Date: September 26, 2003  
U.S. Appl. No.: Not Yet Assigned  
Entitled: Medical Instrument  
Atty. Docket No: 104202-3 (J&J5115PCT)

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

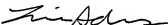
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By:



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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits the following amendments and remarks prior to examining the above-referenced patent application.

*Amendments to the Claims* begin on page 2 of this paper.

*Remarks* begin on page 5 of this paper.